



Cladribine (2-CdA)

At the Clinical Center referred to as cladribine (KLAD-rih-been).

How Given: Intravenously (by vein).

Drug Action: Cladribine blocks a protein that cancer cells need to copy DNA. DNA is the genetic material in cells used to make new cells.

Side Effects:

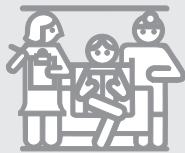
1. Bone marrow effects can include a temporary decrease in white blood cells, platelets, and red blood cells. White blood cells and platelets decrease within 2 weeks and recover within 4 to 5 weeks.
2. Mild nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, and diarrhea can occur during the first 2 weeks of treatment.
3. Mild headaches and fatigue can occur during the first 2 weeks of treatment and decrease thereafter.
4. Bowel changes can occur. Symptoms include abdominal pain, diarrhea, and constipation.
5. Mild skin rash usually occurs during the first 2 weeks of treatment.

Special Instructions:

1. Take antinausea medication as ordered.
2. Do not take aspirin or aspirin-containing products unless prescribed by your doctor. These include vitamins, herbal treatments, nose drops, cold, flu, headache, pain, hay fever, and allergy medications.

Call your NIH doctor or nurse if you

- have a temperature of 101.0 °F (38.3 °C) at any time, or have a temperature of at least 100.4 °F (38.0 °C) that lasts 1 hour or occurs two times within a 24-hour period
- have any unusual bleeding or bruising



This information is prepared specifically for patients participating in clinical research at the Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center at the National Institutes of Health and is not necessarily applicable to individuals who are patients elsewhere. If you have questions about the information presented here, talk to a member of your healthcare team.

Living with Cancer Chemotherapy Series
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Questions about the Clinical Center? OCCC@cc.nih.gov